Charas seized in Delhi

1878. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Times of India of 14th January, 1986 to the effect that charas worth Rs. 12 lakhs was seized in capital; and

(b) whether any arrest has been made and the action taken by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes. On the basis of a tip off a joint raid was organised by the district police and the Excise department of Delhi Administration, and about 208 kgs. of charas was seized on 12-1-1986 in Kirti Nagar, whose value in the local market is estimated at about Rs. 12 lakhs.

(b) Investigation of the case is in progress. Efforts are being made to trace the accused.

Directive regarding priority of the U.S. star wars programme

1879. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported directive of US Defence Secretary to raise President Regan's star wars to the highest priority among the Pentagon Programmes; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard in view of its impact on prospects for maintenance of world peace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir. Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(b) Government of India is of the view that it is necessary to take urgent measures to prevent an arms race in Outer Space. This view has been put forward forcefully at a number of international forums.

Racket in forged university degrees and certificates

1880. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a racket in forged university degrees/certificates was unearthed in West Delhi towards the end of January, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the particulars of persons apprehended in connection therewith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes.

(b) On the basis of a tip off, Delhi Police conducted a raid and recovered forge certificates and seals of Agra University from one Guruji Coaching Centre, Chand Nagar, Delhi. The rubber stamp seals were those of the "Deputy Registrar Examination, Agra University, Agra". A file folder was seized containing some blank forms and certificates with the seal of Deputy Registrar Examination, Agra University.

(c) A case u/s 473/474 IPC was registered and two persons viz., Shiv-Charan and his son Rakesh Kumar have been arrested.

Age limit for Civil Services Examination

1881. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been persistent demand for restoring the maxi-